

Message Text

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SUBJECT: FINNISH-USSR AGREEMENTS ON COOPERATION IN
ENERGY SUPPLY AND SCIENTIFIC-TECHNOLOGICAL
COOPERATION SIGNED

REF: (A) HELSINKI 1848 (B) HELSINKI 2070

1. FINNISH-USSR AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN ENERGY
SUPPLY DURING 1976-81 WAS SIGNED OCTOBER 16 IN
HELSINKI DURING OFFICIAL VISIT OF PRESIDENT PODGORNYY
BY FINNISH MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE JERU LAINEN
AND USSR FOREIGN ECONOMIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN S. A. SKATSHKOV.

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2. AGREEMENT COVERS DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION IN

PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS, FUEL SUPPLY AND ENRICHMENT SERVICES, REPROCESSING OF FUEL USED IN PLANTS, TRANSFER OF ELECTRIC POWER, AND DEVELOPMENT OF PEAT INDUSTRY.

3. ACCORDING TO THE AGREEMENT, NEGOTIATIONS WILL BEGIN ON TWO ADDITIONAL 440 MW NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS TO BE SITUATED AT LOVIISA, OF THE SAME TYPE AS TWO ALREADY UNDER CONSTRUCTION, TO BE READY FOR USE IN 1981 AND 1982. NEGOTIATIONS FOR AN ADDITIONAL PLANT OF 1000 MW WERE PUT OFF TO 1976, WITH PLANT, IF DECIDED UPON, TO BE READY IN 1985.

4. USSR GUARANTEES IN AGREEMENT BOTH ENRICHMENT OF URANIUM AND REPROCESSING OF USED FUEL FOR THESE PLANTS AND ANY OTHERS OBTAINED FROM USSR. USSR ENRICHMENT OBLIGATION COVERS ANY URANIUM OBTAINED BY FINLAND EITHER FROM USSR, OTHER FOREIGN SOURCES OR POSSIBLY DOMESTIC URANIUM. IMATRAN VOIMA, STATE POWER COMPANY, PLANS TO SURVEY FINNISH URANIUM DEPOSITS, BUT NOTES THAT CURRENT WORLD PRICES DO NOT NOW ECONOMICALLY JUSTIFY EXPLOITATION OF RATHER LOW QUALITY, HIGH COST FINNISH DEPOSITS, DESPITE 50 PERCENT INCREASE IN WORLD PRICE. IMATRAN VOIMA INDICATED, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, THAT ENRICHMENT CLAUSE WAS MADE FLEXIBLE, AS TO SOURCE OF URANIUM, BECAUSE OF CURRENT DISAGREEMENTS ON PRICE OF ELECTRICITY TO BE IMPORTED FROM USSR (SEE PARA 5), AND BECAUSE OF DIFFICULTIES WHICH HAVE OCCURRED IN OIL NEGOTIATIONS.

COMMENT: THIS PRESUMABLY REFERS NOT ONLY TO PRICE BUT TO USSR UNWILLINGNESS TO SUPPLY ALL OF FINLAND'S DESIRED OIL IMPORTS.

5. USSR ALSO GUARANTEES ANNUAL DELIVERIES OF ELECTRIC POWER, STARTING IN 1980, OF UP TO 4 BILLION KWH, WITH A PROVISION FOR AN INCREASE DURING DECADE TO 8 BILLION KWH, AT FINLAND'S DISCRETION.

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6 DETAILS ARE UNAVAILABLE ON PROPOSALS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF PEAT INDUSTRY.

7. A SEPARATE AGREEMENT ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION WAS SIGNED BY RESPECTIVE CHAIRMEN OF FINNISH-SOVIET SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION COMMISSION, PEKKA KUUSI AND M. P. KOVALEV. AREAS OF COOPERATION ARE GIVEN AS PULP AND PAPER INDUSTRY,

FORESTRY, CONSTRUCTION, WATER ECONOMY, MEDICINE
AND ENGINEERING, CHEMICAL AND FOODSTUFFS INDUSTRIES.
HOUSTON

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